

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 927

By Ford

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Councilman Edmund Ford, Jr. upon receiving his Doctorate degree in Higher Education Administration and Supervision.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable citizen is Edmund Ford, Jr., Memphis City Councilman, who will be receiving his Doctorate degree in Higher Education Administration and Supervision at Tennessee State University (TSU) on Saturday, May 5, 2012 at 9 a.m. at the Gentry Center; and

WHEREAS, Councilman Ford has made invaluable contributions to educational research through his dissertation titled "Faculty Perceptions of Information Technology and Its Perceived Usefulness at a Public Urban University in Tennessee"; and

WHEREAS, the youngest African-American ever to be elected to the City Council, he is the oldest child of former Councilman Edmund Ford, Sr. and Myrna Ford; and

WHEREAS, he is currently a mathematics teacher at Central High School, from which he graduated in 1996 at the age of sixteen; and

WHEREAS, he later graduated *cum laude* from Tennessee State University, where he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics with a minor in Computer Science and a Master of Science degree in Mathematical Sciences with an emphasis in Technology; and

WHEREAS, he has also completed two years of doctoral coursework in Leadership and Policy Studies at Vanderbilt University's Peabody College, where he assisted Professor James

C. Hearn with the completion and publication of the text, “Diversifying Campus Revenue Streams: Opportunities and Risks”; and

WHEREAS, Councilman Ford serves as Chairman of the Planning and Zoning Committee and Landmarks Committee, Vice-Chairman of the Personnel, Intergovernmental, and Annexation Committee, and member of the Economic Development, Tourism, and Technology Committee, the Memphis Light, Gas, & Water Committee, and the Housing and Community Development Committee, where he was formerly the Chair; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure, he has also served as legislative liaison to Memphis Area Transit Authority (MATA), the Memphis Housing Authority, and the Cook Convention Center; Chairman of the Government Efficiency Sub-Committee and member of the CIP/Engineering Sub-Committee on Mayor A.C. Wharton’s Transition Team; member of Shelby County Mayor Joe Ford’s Task Force on Core City Development, Redevelopment, and Revitalization; and member on the advisory board of the Tennessee Renewable Energy and Economic Development Council (TREEDC); and

WHEREAS, a highly active member of his community, Councilman Ford is also Vice-President of the Bluebird Park Estates Neighborhood Association and a member of the McCorkle Road Neighborhood Development Association, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity of America, Inc., Alpha Phi Omega National Service Fraternity, Inc., TSU Alumni Association, and the Orange Mound Lodge of Prince Hall Free and Accepted Masons; and

WHEREAS, a devout Christian, he also serves on the Steward Board at Ford Chapel AME Zion Church in Memphis, where he has been a lifelong member; and

WHEREAS, the success of this State, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of our society depends, in great measure, on public servants like Councilman Edmund Ford, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, his commitment to higher education, public service, and improving the community should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Councilman Edmund Ford, Jr. upon his receiving his Doctorate degree in Higher Education Administration and Supervision, thank him for his meritorious service to the citizens of Tennessee, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.